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Navy Espionage Case

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DAN RATHER: And now there are three. A third Walker family member with ties to the U.S. Navy and access to U.S. military secrets is accused of selling those secrets to the Soviets.

Rita Braver, who broke this story, now reports what's been learned in the spy family case so far and what it is feared the Russians may have learned.

J RITA BRAVER: The government says his code name was the letter K, retired Navy Lieutenant Commander Arthur James Walker, the third member of his family to be charged with spying.

Walker left the Navy in 1973 and in 1980 began working for BSE, a Virginia defense contractor. The government says he admits that same year he began giving classified information to his brother John to deliver to the Russians. Officials say Arthur got \$12,000 for maps and layouts of U.S. ships.

More arrests are still expected, and the Navy is establishing a special review panel to assess damage by the Walker family.

SECY. WEINBERGER: The Walker case represents, I think it's fair to say, a serious loss. And to the extent that any procedural or, really, operational changes are needed, we would institute those.

BRAVER: Former Deputy CIA Director Bobby Inman today told CBS News a Walker family member may have leaked information in the late 1960s that revealed to the Soviets U.S. ability to track their submarines, and led to improved Soviet anti-detection technology.

P SEN. PATRICK LEAHY: There's sort of a complacency here in the United States. We somehow feel, "Well, the Soviets don't really do that."

BRAVER: But officials say the Soviets really did bribe Arthur Walker, his brother John, the alleged ringleader, and John's son Michael.

In Arthur Walker's Virginia Beach neighborhood today, some were angry.

CAROL JOYCE: I'm really shocked. I find it very hard to believe that somebody would do that.

BRAVER: And John Walker Senior, the father and grandfather of the accused spies, said he was ashamed.

JOHN WALKER SR: I feel very bad about the whole thing.

BRAVER: Officials familiar with the case say the only motive so far for three members of this Navy family to have spied on their government was greed. They say that it was a family that looked good on the surface, but was willing to sell out its country.

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